

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No: 37697-0033

Applicant(s): Edward W. MERRILL *et al.* Confirmation No.: 8881
Serial No.: 09/764,445 Examiner: Duc Truong
Filing Date: January 19, 2001 Group Art Unit: 1711
Title: RADIATION AND MELT TREATED ULTRA HIGH MOLECULAR
WEIGHT POLYETHYLENE PROSTHETIC DEVICES

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION UNDER 37 CFR §1.111

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Mails Stop RCE

Sir:

Applicants herein respond to the final Office Action mailed July 8, 2003 (Paper No. 19). Applicants believe that no extension of time is required, but expressly request an extension, and provide an authorization to charge our firm deposit account, should an extension be needed. Please debit any underpayments, or credit any overpayments, to firm deposit account no. 08-1641.

Applicants request that examination of this the application be conducted with the "special dispatch" required by 37 CFR § 1.607(b); MPEP §§ 708.01(F), 2307.